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## INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 27 June 1952

SUBJECT Unreliable Stock Returns at State Planning  
Commission; Proposed Corrective Measures

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1. A meeting took place on 7 March 1952 under the chairmanship of Heinrich Rau, Chairman of the State Planning Commission, to discuss the supply situation in the DDR, the work of reporting on it and the distribution of stocks. Present at the meeting were: Minister of Construction, Dr. Lothar Bolz; State Secretaries Bruno Leuschner and Paul Strassenberger, First and Second Deputy Chairmen respectively of the State Planning Commission; Alfred Binz, representing the State Planning Commission's State Secretary for Material Procurement Erwin Kerber\*, and State Secretary for Chemistry, Stone and Clays (Chemie, Steine und Erden) Dirk van Rickelen.
2. Rau said that the returns on available stocks of basic materials in the DDR showed that stocks, particularly of nonferrous metals, were unsatisfactory. He alluded to the recent decision of the USSR to cut its allotment of copper to the DDR in 1952 by 10,000 tons and said that this was a serious blow. He was not satisfied, however, that the returns in his possession were accurate or that the situation was as bad as it appeared. He said he had ordered physical spot checks to be made during the previous week and these showed that hoarding was going on, particularly in the SAGs.
3. Rau sharply criticized the State Planning Commission's State Secretariat for Material Procurement and the Central Statistical Office and said that the former had not been vigilant in watching stocks at SAGs and that the latter had been furnishing unreliable returns.
4. Rau announced his intention of incorporating the Planning Department of the State Secretariat for Material Procurement into the Planning Department of the State Planning Commission itself to work directly under his own supervision.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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5. Chairman Rau then ordered Binz to arrange for a physical check of all important stocks to be carried out as soon as possible and for new returns to be made. The check on nonferrous metals of the SAGs was to be particularly thorough.
6. On 8 March 1952, Binz called a meeting of the State Secretariat for Material Procurement at which all of his departmental heads were present and told them what had been said at Rau's conference. He ordered them all as a first measure to carry out a careful check of their stock return figures and make a report by 10 March 1952. Special instructions were given to Wilhelm Schneider, the head of the Metal Department. Further measures were to follow.

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\*            Comment: Erwin Kerber has been reportedly appointed head of Zentralamt fuer Forschung und Technik (ZFT).           

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